

VA**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

News Release

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The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing the award of a \$2.3 million grant to the State of Wisconsin for the establishment of a state veterans cemetery in Union Grove, near Milwaukee.

The grant will provide partial funds for the development of burial areas, roadways, administrative and maintenance buildings, and a committal service facility. The new 105-acre cemetery will serve approximately 280,000 veterans living within a 75-mile radius of the cemetery.

To complement VA's National Cemetery System, the State Cemetery Grants Program has helped to establish, expand or improve 41 state veterans cemeteries by providing matching funds on a 50-50 basis. Since the program was established in 1980, VA has awarded 122 grants totaling more than \$50.4 million to 21 states and the Commonwealths of Guam and the Northern Marianas. In Fiscal Year 1996, 18 grants were awarded totaling \$4,757,510.

Information on VA burial benefits can be obtained from national cemetery offices or by calling VA regional offices toll-free on 1-800-827-1000. Specific information about the grants program is available by contacting the National Cemetery System, State Cemetery Grants Service, (202) 565-6152.